

SECRET

Vice Admiral J. L. Holloway
Chief of Naval Personnel
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Admiral Holloway:

We are in receipt of a letter from the Director of Naval Intelligence, (reference Op-9218/mo Ser 9392P92) informing Mr. Sheffield Edwards, Director of Security, CIA, of certain new policies set forth by your office concerning the availability of Naval personnel records for investigative review. These new policies, particularly as they refer to the review of files of individuals in an "inactive duty status", present a problem of extreme gravity for this Agency.

The work of this Agency is of such a nature it is imperative that, not only its employees, but all other persons with whom it deals in relationships of varying degrees of trust, be absolutely reliable and trustworthy. The number of these people, exclusive of employees, who must be relied upon by this Agency for assistance in fulfilling its mission, is great. Relationships with them are sensitive, delicate and intimate to the point where knowledge even of our interest must be maintained in complete and protective secrecy. There is no substitute for the assistance rendered by this group, yet they cannot be utilized unless their complete reliability is established by thorough investigation.

The conduct of these investigations is a delicate, difficult matter requiring special techniques. The records of other Government Agencies are indispensable. The files of your office are a most prolific source of information, particularly as to individuals on an "inactive duty status" into which category a surprisingly large number of these people fall. With the assistance of up-to-date investigations and other extensive information available in the files of other Government Agencies, we are often enabled to make immediate security determinations or to substantially reduce the effort, risk and expense of these investigations. Particularly peculiar to investigations of this type is the fact that in many, the Subjects, themselves, must remain unaware

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ER via Reading

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of any interest in them until after a decision as to their reliability is reached. Only then may an approach to them be made. It is not uncommon for us to conduct three or four investigations before suitability requirements are established and reliability indicated for one candidate. Under the provisions of your order, an invaluable avenue of assistance would be closed to us in an extremely large number of cases because of the practical impossibility on our part to comply with the requirement of producing a signed copy, or a photostat thereof, of the Subject's application for employment or a Personal History Statement or Security Questionnaire submitted incident to a Security Clearance.

I fully appreciate the privileged character of personnel records and the need for adequate restrictions concerning them. This Agency, as a matter of unyielding policy, has always jealously guarded this type of information even within the organization itself. The traffic in files containing personnel records or information is highly restricted.

In this connection, if the policy recently defined by you has been prompted by any indication of laxity on our part in the handling of personnel information, I am certainly prepared to take proper corrective measures to maintain the proper protection of this type of information.

In practical effect, if your proposed policy is implemented, the work of the Office of Security of this Agency will be seriously handicapped. Should other Government Agencies adopt the same procedures, an impossible situation from the standpoint of this Agency would result and the National Security would, to that extent, be impaired.

I earnestly request that you reconsider the new procedures and policy in terms of the possibility, if necessary, of granting an exception to this Agency. Should you be disposed to discuss this matter in more detail, I am certain that we can establish the gravity of our problem and, on the other hand, assure you that through proper controls we can guarantee the sanctity of the information obtained from your files. If you so desire, I shall be most happy to discuss this matter at your convenience.

It is my understanding that the effective date of the new procedure is 1 September 1956. In view of the difficulties presented, it is requested that the effective date, as it concerns this Agency, be postponed

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for sixty days until 1 November 1956, so as to allow time for necessary discussions.

I greatly appreciate your attention to this matter and any assistance you may be able to render. In view of your past splendid attitude of co-operation and sympathetic understanding of our problems, I am confident that this matter will be resolved to our mutual satisfaction.

Sincerely,

SIGNED

C. P. Cabell
Lieutenant General, USAF
Deputy Director

OS/ S Edwards/jif 28 Aug 56

25X1

Distribution:

Orig & 1 - Adse

1 - DDCI

~~1 - ER~~

1 - SSD File #77425

1 - Navy Dept, Bureau of Naval Personnel File

Returned by directly to Col Edwards per
his request, for hand carrying. 8/31

} Also returned
to Col Edwards 8/31

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Executive Registry
8-5-56
68

20 AUG 1956

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At the Director's request I am answering your letter of 5 March 1956 which enclosed a letter from [redacted] who is seeking sponsorship for entry into the United States under the Refugee Relief Program.

STAT

You will readily understand that appeals of this nature are regularly brought to our attention by ex-employees, such as Mr. [redacted] with backgrounds of faithful service to this organization. In each instance, detailed examination into the individual case is made, and the circumstances of both termination and potential continued utility are carefully reviewed. Obviously, there are many persons of foreign birth who wish to have their past services recognized in the manner suggested by your correspondent. Unfortunately, and through no fault of his own, Mr. [redacted] does not fit the criteria legally established to permit direct assistance by this agency in gaining entry to the United States. Further, should such criteria be waived in his case, a flood of similar requests from similarly experienced persons [redacted] could be expected.

STAT

Our investigation into Mr. [redacted] case has established that all official commitments made to him were honored, and his employment was ended amicably. In these as well as the circumstances outlined above, no action can be taken by this Agency to assist Mr. [redacted] in securing a visa.

STAT

We appreciate your calling our attention to this case.

Sincerely,

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EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

[redacted]
Executive Assistant to the Director

To be
to field by
78/2
STAT

ER my hand

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FE []/pl (25 Jul 56)

REWRITTEN

STAT FE/EXO/[]gs (28 Jul 56)

Distribution

Orig & 1 - Addressee

DCI - 2

DD/P - 1

CFE - 1

CFE/2 - 1

IG - 1

RI/AN - 1

CONCURRENCES:

see covering memo 7/25/56
Chief, Far East Division ER 8-5459

by COI
initialed on cover sheet.
Deputy Director (Plans)

STAT

[]
Inspector General

14 Aug 56

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ROUTING AND RECORD SHEET

INSTRUCTIONS: Officer designations should be used in the "TO" column. Under each comment a line should be drawn across sheet and each comment numbered to correspond with the number in the "TO" column. Each officer should initial (check mark insufficient) before further routing. This Routing and Record Sheet should be returned to Registry.

FROM:				TELEPHONE	NO.	
FE/2						
TO	ROOM NO.	DATE		OFFICER'S INITIALS	TELEPHONE	COMMENTS
		REC'D	FWD'D			
1. CFE/2						25X1 1 to 7: After attached letter to Col. [] has been signed, please return to FE/2 for forwarding to the field by pouch.
2. CFE						CFE/2
3. ESEC						
4. DD/P		26 JUL 1956	9 Aug			1 to 7 - Suggest you sign the reply on behalf of the DCI. a.c.u.
5. IG						
6.						
7. EA/DCI Mr. []						4 to 7 CoPS asks that Mr. [] call him in re the proposed letter to Col. []
8. DDCI						25X1
9. DGE						
10. 625/2						
11.						25X1
12.						
13.						7 to 10. Let's for perching to field per your request above.
14.						
15.						

FORM NO. 610
1 APR 55REPLACES FORM 540
WHICH MAY BE USED.

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